

CLAIMS  
IAP20 Rec'd PCT/AU 17 APR 2006

1. A method of driving a photosensitive device (1, 1'), comprising a matrix (2, 20) of photosensitive pixels (P1 to P9) distributed at the intersections of rows (SY1 to SY3) and columns (X1 to X3) of the matrix (2, 20), which consists in subjecting the matrix (2, 20) to an image cycle that includes a resetting phase prior to an image acquisition phase, characterized in that rows of the matrix (2, 20) are distributed in several groups, in that it consists, during the resetting phase, in resetting all the rows of any one group simultaneously and in that it consists in resetting each group of rows in succession and in that all the rows in any one group are disjoint.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the rows in any one group are separated by at least two rows that do not belong to the group in question.

3. The method as claimed in either of the preceding claims, characterized in that the groups of rows have approximately the same number of rows.

25 4. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the distribution of the rows in a group forms a comb.

30 5. The method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that rows forming a group are uniformly spaced apart with a pitch equal to  $\alpha = N/n$ , where N is the total number of rows of the matrix and n is the number of rows per group, and in that the comb is moved at least 35  $\alpha-1$  times so as to scan all of the rows of the matrix (2, 20).

6. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it consists in waiting until the resetting of a group has been completed before starting to reset another group.

5

7. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the image acquisition phase is followed by a read phase during which a first electrical pulse is sent in succession to each row of  
10 the matrix, the first pulse making it possible to read the quantity of charge stored in the photosensitive pixels during the image acquisition phase, in that, during the reset phase, a second electrical pulse is sent to all the rows in any one group, in order to  
15 reset the rows in the group, and in that the first and second pulses are substantially identical.